

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01026 110956Z

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INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL CH

SUBJ: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION

REF: A) PEKING 0974 (NOTAL) B) PEKING 0955

C) STATE 170755 (NOTAL) D) PEKING 0798 (NOTAL)

1. COPITHORNE, DCM AT CANADIAN EMBASSY, INFORMED DC HOLDRIDGE SEPTEMBER 11 THAT CANADA LIKE OURSELVES HAS BEEN OFFERED CHOICE BY CHINESE BETWEEN TOKYO AND PARIS EXHIBITIONS, WITH TOKYO SHOW AVAILABLE AS EARLY AS APRIL 1974. CHINESE HAVE BEEN PUSHING TOKYO SHOW WITH CANADIANS, WHICH GAVE LATTER IMPRESSION THAT THEY REALLY HAD NO CHOICE AT ALL AND TOKYO SHOW WAS ONLY ONE AVAILABLE; HOWEVER THEY RECENTLY LEARNED FROM CHANG YING, WIFE OF NEW PRC AMBASSADOR TO CANADA AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MFA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, THAT THEY STILL MAY CHOOSE BETWEEN TOKYO AND PARIS SHOWS. IF THEY OPT FOR PARIS SHOW, IT WILL ARRIVE IN CANADA IN LATE 1974 OR EARLY 1975.

2. COPITHORNE INDICATED THAT CANADIANS CONSIDER TOKYO SHOW DISTINCTLY INFERIOR TO PARIS EXHIBITION. CHINESE HAVE OFFERED TO REFURBISH TOKYO SHOW SOMEWHAT, REPLACING AND UPGRADING SOME ITEMS. CANADIANS NEVERTHERLESS STILL
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PAGE 02 PEKING 01026 110956Z

WANT PARIS SHOW FOR MUCH THE SAME REASONING OUTLINED IN REFTTEL C. PROBLEM OF PARIS EXHIBITION IS UNCERTAINTY AS

TO ARRIVAL DATE, SINCE IT MUST FIRST VISIT LONDON,
VIENNA AND STOCKHOLM.

3. CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT WHATEVER SHOW THEY CHOOSE,
IT WILL ONLY VISIT ONE CITY. PARIS SHOW THUS WOULD GO TO
TORONTO; TOKYO SHOW TO SOME WEST COAST CANADIAN CITY,
PRESUMABLY VICTORIA. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES CANADIAN
AMBASSADOR SMALL HAS SUGGESTED TO CHINESE POSSIBILITY
OF U.S. AND CANADA SHARING TOKYO AND PARIS SHOWS, WITH
TOKYO SHOW COVERING WEST COAST OF U.S. AND CANADA AND
PARIS SHOW EAST COAST OF BOTH COUNTRIES. CHINESE DID
NOT APPEAR RECEPTIVE.

4. ACCORDING TO COPITHORNE, CHINESE ARE NOW NEGOTIATING
TERMS OF EXHIBITION IN VIENNA WITH AUSTRIAN EMBASSY PEKING.
COPITHORNE HAS COMPARED TEXT OF DRAFT AGREEMENT CHINESE
ARE NEGOTIATING WITH AUSTRIANS WITH TEXT OF PRC-FRENCH
AGREEMENT, AND BELIEVES CHINESE ARE BEING MUCH TOUGHER
ON CONDITIONS FOR VIENNA SHOWING THAN THEY WERE IN PARIS.
THEY ARE, FOR EXAMPLE, VERY DEMANDING ON SCORE OF SAFETY
FEATURES OF EXHIBITION HALL IN VIENNA. FROM THIS HE
BELIEVES THAT CHINESE ARE DISSATISFIED WITH TREATMENT
EXHIBITION RECEIVED FROM THE FRENCH.

5. CHINESE HAVE MENTIONED TO COPITHORNE THEY ARE CONSIDERING
SENDING TOKYO SHOW TO MEXICO.

6. COMMENT: FROM FACT THAT CHINESE ARE OFFERING IDENTICAL
CHOICES TO CANADA AND U.S. AS TO TOKYO AND PARIS SHOWS,
IT WOULD APPEAR THAT PRC PLANNING DEPENDENT ON WHO MOVES
FIRST. THIS PROBABLY IS REASON FOR SENSE OF URGENCY ON
CHINESE SIDE REGARDING U.S. DECISION, AS REPORTED REFTEL A.
AS TO DESIRABILITY OUTLINED IN REFTEL C FOR NATIONWIDE
SHOWING OF EXHIBITION IN U.S., WE WONDER IF IT MIGHT BE
WORTHWHILE EXPLORING FURTHER CANADIAN AMBASSADOR'S
SUGGESTION THAT BOTH TOKYO AND PARIS SHOWS BE BROUGHT TO
NORTH AMERICA, THUS ALLOWING SHOWINGS IN AT LEAST TWO
CITIES IN U.S. DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO WISH CONSIDER
SUGGESTING TO U.S. MUSEUM AUTHORITIES THAT THEY COORDINATE
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PAGE 03 PEKING 01026 110956Z

WITH THEIR CANADIAN COUNTERPARTS.
JENKINS

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